

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01181 031720Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05
CIAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SY-02 /039 W
-----031810Z 112419 /43

P R 031620Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4505
AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1181

LIMDIS

E O 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV PFOR WB GE US UK FR UR
SUBJ: SUMMARY OF FLAG TOUR EVENTS IN EAST BERLIN, APRIL 29-MAY 1

REF: USBERLIN 1030

1. FOLLOWING REPORT IS BASED ON DAILY FLAG TOUR CABLE
SUMMARIES PRODUCED BY USCOB.

2. ON APRIL 27, AN EAST GERMAN POLICE CAR PARTIALLY
BLOCKED, THEN FOLLOWED A US FLAG TOUR VEHICLE IN EAST
BERLIN. WEST BERLIN PLATED ALFA ROMEO MOVED IN BETWEEN
FLAG TOUR VEHICLE AND POLICE CAR. ALFA'S DRIVER
PULLED UP AND TOLD OUR TOUR VEHICLE LEADER IN FLUENT ENGLISH
THAT ALFA WAS BEING FOLLOWED AND HARRASSED BY VOPOS
AND SAID HE FEARED BEING DETAINED IN EAST BERLIN. (HE
INDICATED HIS FIANCEE IN CAR WITH HIM WAS EAST GERMAN).
HE ASKED TOUR LEADER FOR HIS TELEPHONE NUMBER TO CALL
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IF ALFA DRIVER WERE PREVENTED FROM LEAVING EAST BERLIN.
TOUR LEADER DEMURRED. ALFA DRIVER THEN SHOUTED HIS OWN
TELEPHONE NUMBER. BOTH ALFA ROMEO AND VOPO VEHICLE FOLLOWED
FLAG TOUR FOR SOME DISTANCE. WHEN VOPO CAR BROKE OFF LATER, ALFA
DRIVER THANKED FLAG TOUR LEADER AND DROVE OFF.

3. ON APRIL 30, A US FLAG TOUR VEHICLE WAS APPROACHED

BY A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN ON FOOT AS IT WAS ABOUT TO ENTER EAST GERMAN CHECKPOINT FRIEDRICHSTRASSE TO EXT EAST BERLIN. WOMAN ASKED IN FLUENT ENGLISH FOR RIDE TO ALEXANDERPLATZ (IN EAST BERLIN) TO APPLY FOR GDR EXIT VISA BECAUSE SHE SAID HER FATHER HAD DIED SOMEWHERE IN FRG. SHE ADDED SHE HAD BEEN STANDING IN RAIN FOR TWO HOURS (SHE DID NOT APPEAR WET) AND WAS UNABLE TO HAIL A TAXI OR MAKE A PHONE CALL. WHEN FLAG TOUR LEADER POLITELY REFUSED TO LET HER INTO VEHICLE OR ENGAGE HER IN CONVERSATION, SHE WALKED DIRECTLY TO A PARKED CAR AND WAS DRIVEN AWAY BY TWO MEN.

4. ON MAY 1, US CONDUCTED THREE FLAG TOURS IN EAST BERLIN. FRENCH AND BRITISH CONDUCTED NONE, BUT PROVIDED COVERAGE OF MAY DAY IN DIFFERENT WAYS. BRITISH SENT OUT SIX-MAN FOOT PATROL AND FRENCH INTELLIGENCE SENT FOUR DRIVERS AND FOUR ESCORT OFFICER WITH FOUR FRENCH COMMANDANT VEHICLES TO VIEW MAY DAY CEREMONIES. REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF FLAG TOURS BY ALL ALLIES FROM NORMAL MAY DAY LEVELS IS EXPLAINED BY ABSENCE OF MILITARY PARADE AND DISPLAY OF EQUIPMENT THIS YEAR. THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS INVOLVING FLAG TOURS ON MAY 1 OR MAY 2.

5. COMMENT: EVENTS INVOLVING FLUENT ENGLISH SPEAKERS IN PARAGRAPHS TWO AND THREE MAY REPRESENT DELIBERATE PROVOCATIONS BY EAST GERMANS, BUT NO PROFF APPEARS POSSIBLE. FLAG TOUR CONTINUE TO OBSERVE STRICT PROHIBITION AGAINST INVOLVEMENT WITH EAST GERMANS. WEST BERLIN POLICE ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE DRIVER OF ALFA ROMEO. GEORGE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, BERLIN ACCESS, REPORTS, MILITARY VEHICLES, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: X1
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Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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